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An Undescribed *Desmodium* from Texas and Mexico.

DESMODIUM LINDHEIMERI.—Erect, branching, stout, 2° or more high, conspicuously angled and channeled, downy with a close fine pubescence; stipules more or less persistent, ovate lanceolate, cuspidate, pubescent and reflexed; petioles 1' or more long; leaflets scabrous or finely pubescent above, reticulate, villous-pubescent and the veins conspicuous beneath, ovate or ovate-lanceolate, 1-3' or more long, the terminal one mostly somewhat rhomboid, truncate at the base, acutish, the two others inequilateral, smaller and more obtuse; racemes paniced, spreading; bracts ovate-lanceolate, cuspidate, deciduous; flowers purple; calyx bilabiate, the lobes acute and nearly equal; loment 1' to 1½' or more long, 4-6 jointed, the joints obliquely oval, about 4" long and 3" wide, glabrous with the sutures conspicuously uncinat-pubescent; stipes 1" or less long.

Monterey, Mexico, Herb. Kew, coll. by Dr. Edwards; (Hemsl. Biol. Cent. Am. i., 291,) also in Herb. Torrey (without fruit), determined by Bentham as *Desmodium viridiflorum*, Beck.

New Braunfels, Texas, coll. F. Lindheimer (No. 499). Caracol Mts., Mexico, coll. Ed. Palmer (No. 246). Mts. near Cardenas, Mexico, coll. C. G. Pringle (No. 3289). This plant differs from the typical *Desmodium viridiflorum* (L.) Beck, of the Atlantic Coast States in its angled stems, stouter habit, and the size and shape of the joints of its loment. Those of *D. viridiflorum* are rarely more than 2" long, semi-rhomboid and uncinat-pubescent throughout, whereas those of *D. Lindheimeri* are fully twice that size, obliquely oval, glabrous with only the sutures uncinat-pubescent. In the more recently collected and beautifully prepared specimens of C. G. Pringle the joints are green with the pubescence on the sutures appearing perfectly white. The alliance of Lindheimer's plant is rather with *Desmodium canescens* (L.) D.C. than with *D. viridiflorum*.

ANNA MURRAY VAIL.

Plants of Special Interest Collected at Orono, Maine.

By MERRITT L. FERNALD.

Although Orono and vicinity have long been considered among the best collecting fields in Maine, both for the botanist and the entomologist, yet very little has been published concerning our flora. This is doubtless due, in a large degree, to the lack

of local botanists. Nearly all who have spent any time here have been connected with the State College, and their necessary duties have left them little time for outside work.

It has been my privilege to spend the past year, 1890—especially from May to August—collecting here. Thinking that notes on some of our less common plants may be of interest, I venture the following. Plants marked * are not recorded from Maine in the sixth edition of Gray's Manual.

Clematis verticillaris, DC. Prof. Lamson Scribner in an article published fifteen years ago, stated that this plant was found in Orono, "growing profusely on rocky banks." It has fast been torn up, until now there are only a few straggling plants left, and these are in constant danger of meeting the same fate.

* *Nymphæa advena*, Ait. f., var. *minus*, Morong, is quite abundant at "Chemo," a pond and stream in Bradley.

Alyssum calycinum, L. Sparingly introduced into grass-land.

* *Papaver Rhæas*, L. Ever since I can remember, this plant has grown in a field back of the old "White House" at the college. Probably at first escaped from a garden, but it has not failed to make its appearance for years.

Viola palmata, L., var. *cucullata*, (Ait.) Gray. A pure-white form is prevalent in a meadow on the "Old Town road."

* *Viola tricolor*, L. var. *arvensis*, Ging. Sparingly introduced with grass-seed.

* *Hypericum Canadense*, L., var. *minimum*, Chois. A form answering to the description of this is frequent in mossy places.

* *Poterium Sanguisorba*, L. A single plant of this was collected in cultivated ground, in 1889.

* *Epilobium hirsutum*, L. This occurs in at least one garden in Portland as a weed, where I collected it, in 1889.

* *Epilobium strictum*, Muhl. Not infrequent in bogs throughout the state.

* *Ribes nigrum*, L. Escaped into rich soil near the bank of the Stillwater River.

* *Callitriche verna*, L. Abundant in water and wet places, everywhere.

- * *Callitriche heterophylla*, Pursh. Not very common.
- * *Galium Mollugo*, L. Sparingly naturalized in fields.
- Aster Lindleyanus*, Torr. & Gray. Recorded only from Mt. Desert, in Maine. Very abundant in dry or moist fields, varying from 6-18 inches in height, and the heads often 1 or 1 ½ inches across. Our most beautiful species.
- Anthemis arvensis*, L. Nearly as common as *A. Cotula*, growing in fields and newly sown lawns.
- Matricaria inodora*, L. Fields, rare. Recorded from Eastport, Maine.
- * *Matricaria discoidea*, DC. Abundant at one point on Main Street, south of Orono village. Immigrant from Oregon.
- * *Centaurea Jacea*, L. One plant was collected in experimental grass-land.
- * *Hypochaeris glabra*, L. Experimental grass-land. Scarce.
- * *Lactuca hirsuta*, Muhl. Not rare in low woods.
- Vaccinium cæspitosum*, Michx. There is a small patch of this alpine species on the bank of the Stillwater River, near the village of Upper Stillwater. Especially interesting on account of the altitude; about 100 feet.
- * *Vaccinium cæspitosum*, Michx., var. *cuneifolium*, Nutt. Grows in profusion in one part of the pasture back of the college farm buildings. Not previously recorded east of Lake Superior.
- * *Lysimachia thyrsiflora*, L. Not rare throughout the State.
- Halenia deflexa*, (Sm.) Griseb. Quite common in all low woods and pastures.
- Veronica arvensis*, L. Grows on wet rocks in a lot of woods near Veazie, appearing as if indigenous.
- Veronica Buxbaumii*, Tenore. Frequent.
- * *Mentha sativa*, L. Occurs sparingly near the college farmhouse. Probably introduced with garden seed.
- Mentha arvensis*, L. Grows sparingly on the bank of the Stillwater River.
- * *Plantago Patagonica*, Jacq., var. *aristata*, (Michx.) Gray. A few plants have been collected in grass lands.
- Polygonum Careyi*, Olney. Very abundant in low or cultivated ground. Recorded from Southern Maine.

Salix balsamifera, Barratt. Stillwater River, near bank.

* *Narcissus poeticus*, L. This plant has grown wild in a field quite remote from buildings, ever since I can remember. It is constantly increasing, new plants springing up many yards away from others.

Juncus Greenii, Oakes & Tuck. This is very abundant in an alder swamp. Of special interest, as it has hitherto been considered a coast plant, while Orono is nearly forty miles from the nearest salt water.

* *Juncus Canadensis*, J. Gay, vars. *longicaudatus* and *subcaudatus*, of Engelmann, are both common, the former growing in swamps and the latter on the sandy shores of a small pond, the procumbent form being very plenty. Coralline tubers were found on many plants of var. *subcaudatus*.

* *Carex aquatilis* × *stricta*, Bailey. This new form occurs in a meadow on the college grounds. It is strange that it has never been noticed before, as it grows on both sides of the main driveway to the college buildings.

* *Carex communis*, Bailey, var. *Wheeleri*, Bailey. In dry woods, but not common.

* *Carex chordorhiza*, Ehrh. (See Bull., Oct., 1890).

* *Carex echinata*, Murray, var. *angustata*, Bailey, and a form approaching var. *cephalantha*, Bailey. Both quite common.

* *Carex straminea*, Willd., var. *alata*, Bailey. Not uncommon along the line of the M. C. R. R. between Orono and Veazie.

Other *Carices* of note found here are: *pauciflora*, Lightf., *Pseudocyperus*, L., *Houghtonii*, Torr., *lenticularis*, Michx., *Magellanica*, Lam., *limosa*, L., *flava*, L., Vars. *graminis* and *viridula* of Bailey, *umbellata*, Schk., *deflexa*, Hornem, var. *Deanei*, Bailey, *canescens*, L., var. *polystachya*, Boott., common in ditches, *tenuiflora*, Wahl. *tribuloides*, Wahl., vars. *turbuta* and *reducta* of Bailey, together with sixty others.

Panicum xanthophysum, Gray. Scarce.

* *Danthonia compressa*, Aust. Not rare in dry woods.

Sporobolus cuspidatus, Torr. I found one plant of this in dry soil. Previously recorded from Northern Maine.

Apera spica-venti, Beauv. Not infrequent in dry or cultivated ground.

Poa nemoralis, L. Woods, rare. Recorded from Northern Maine.

* *Poa debilis*, Torr. Probably this species, though Dr. Vasey says the plant appears somewhat like *alsodes*, Gray. Deep mossy woods.

Puccinellia maritima, Parl., var. *minor*, Watson. I collected this rare form at Cape Elizabeth, Me., in 1889. Only two plants were found.

Festuca gigantea, Vill. Not rare by roadsides.

Aspidium spinulosum, Swartz. The typical form is common here in deep woods and swamps.

Ophioglossum vulgatum, L. Quite abundant.

* *Lycopodium*. Prof. D. C. Eaton names it, "*L. annotinum*, L., var. *pungens*, Spring, a form with the fertile branches less leafy, and thus imitating *L. clavatum*, L." Knolls in pasture. Very scarce.

Thus it is seen that Maine has an unusually interesting flora, the discoveries in which may be made almost indefinite in extent, and when there have been further explorations, doubtless many things will be found to occur here which have hitherto been overlooked by the busy people of the "Pine Tree State."

I wish here at least to express my thanks for the assistance so kindly rendered me and the encouragement given by four of our most prominent workers, Drs. Sereno Watson and Geo. Vasey, and Professors L. H. Bailey and D. C. Eaton.

ORONO, Me.

Reviews of Foreign Literature.

La Génération sexuée des Gleicheniacées. N. W. P. Rauwenhoff, (Archives Néerlandaises xxiv. 157-231.)

The Gleicheniaceæ form a group of ferns having no representatives within the United States. They are usually placed between the Osmundaceæ and the other leptosporangiate ferns, and constitute a family of equal rank with the Polypodiaceæ, Schizæaceæ etc. They have been but little studied, and the paper before us is the first account of the prothallium that is at all complete, although the author in 1877 and 1879 published some notes upon them.